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Companion Animal Veterinarian: Many Jobs in One

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Poster Presentation PD

COMPANION ANIMAL VETERINARIAN: MANY JOBS IN ONE

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Companion animal veterinarians are doctors who take care of cats and dogs. Most pet-owners are familiar with these doctors and take their canine and feline pets to veterinary offices on a regular basis. What these pet-owners may not realize, however, is the complexity of a companion animal veterinarian's job. Dr. Gretchen Reid, a local companion animal veterinarian, was kind enough to let me follow her around and take photographs of her workplace. By talking to Dr. Reid and observing her activities, I found out that a companion animal veterinarian's job requires many specialized skills. During the course of a day, Dr. Reid alternates between performing surgeries, which requires anesthesiology, surgery, and nursing skills; and seeing clients, which requires many other skills in order to examine animals, make diagnoses, and decide on treatment plans. Additionally, Dr. Reid must have these skills for both cats and dogs. Being a companion animal veterinarian is no small task—in fact, it is many jobs in one—and my photo essay is attempt to explore this in a visual way.